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## U-2 Designer Asks: 'Why Can't U.S. Shut Up?'

By the Associated Press

Detroit

"The United States is the greatest power on earth," Secretary of Defense Thomas S. Gates, Jr., told the opening session of the 61st national convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Aug. 22.

Mr. Gates also said, "Our limited war forces . . . are strong and ready."

Another speaker to the 14,000 assembled veterans of American wars—the man who designed the U-2 spy plane—urged the United States to "shut up" about its defense progress.

This was Clarence L. (Kelly) Johnson, a vice-president of Lockheed Aircraft Corporation.

"Over the years during the development of the [U-2] program," Mr. Johnson said, "it was essential that we learned how to keep our mouths closed."

"I would like to say," he added, "that it would be a splendid idea if we could carry out this tactic in a large number of other defense fields."

Francis Gary Powers was shot down or forced down while flying a U-2 on a spy mission over the Soviet Union.

Mr. Johnson, pointing out that establishment of missile and other military bases are publicized in the United States, said:

"As a nation we certainly run off at the mouth. Why can't we shut up and make things at least a little harder for our opponents."

Mr. Gates cautioned that the nation must not permit a "false impression of weakness that could induce Communist miscalculation of adventure in aggressiveness."

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